GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6273
ANSWERED ON:12.04.2017
Regional Languages in Courts
Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of High Courts of various States which are permitted to use regional languages in the judicial proceedings;

(b) the number of requests from various State Governments pending for approval to use regional languages in their respective High Courts;

(c) whether Central Government would consider the request of Gujarat and approach the Supreme Court afresh to review their earlier stand to allow use of Gujarati language in judicial proceedings of High Court of Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE & ELELCTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)
(a) to (d) : In terms of the provisions under Article 348 (2) of the Constitution and Section 7 of the Official Language Act, 1963, use of regional language i.e. Hindi has been authorised in the proceedings of four States namely Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

The proposals of State Governments of West Bengal, Tamilnadu, Gujarat, Chhattishgarh and Karnataka requesting use of Bengali, Tamil, Gujarati, Hindi and
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Kannada languages in their respective High Courts were not favoured by the Full Court of the Supreme Court.
As per the Cabinet decision dated 21.05.1965, the views of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India are obtained whenever proposals for use of Hindi/Regional Languages in the High Courts are received from the State Governments.